

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To return unused or reclaimed funds made available for broadband grants in the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 to the Treasury of the United States.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M \_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To return unused or reclaimed funds made available for broadband grants in the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 to the Treasury of the United States.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. ACCOUNTABILITY FOR BROADBAND STIMULUS**  
4 **FUNDS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
6 sion of law, the Administrator of the Rural Utilities Serv-  
7 ice and the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Commu-  
8 nications and Information, respectively, shall deobligate

1 any grant or award made under the Broadband Initiatives  
2 Program and the Broadband Technology Opportunities  
3 Program established pursuant to the American Recovery  
4 and Reinvestment Act of 2009 if the Administrator or As-  
5 sistant Secretary determines that the recipient of such  
6 grant or award has demonstrated an insufficient level of  
7 performance or wasteful or fraudulent spending.

8 (b) RETURN OF RECLAIMED FUNDS TO TREAS-  
9 URY.—Not later than 30 days after a grant or award has  
10 been deobligated under subsection (a), the Administrator  
11 or the Assistant Secretary shall return an amount equiva-  
12 lent to such grant or award to the general fund of the  
13 Treasury of the United States.

14 **SEC. 2. DISPOSITION OF UNUSED FUNDS.**

15 The Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service and  
16 the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications  
17 and Information, respectively, shall return to the general  
18 fund of the Treasury of the United States an amount  
19 equivalent to any grant or award made under the  
20 Broadband Initiatives Program and the Broadband Tech-  
21 nology Opportunities Program established pursuant to the  
22 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 if a  
23 grant or award has been returned to such Administrator  
24 or Assistant Secretary or disclaimed by the grant or award

1 recipient at any time after the date of enactment of such  
2 Act.

3 **SEC. 3. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

4       The Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service and  
5 the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications  
6 and Information, respectively, shall provide a notification  
7 to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Rep-  
8 resentatives and the Committee on Agriculture of the Sen-  
9 ate or the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the  
10 House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-  
11 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, respec-  
12 tively—

13           (1) upon any notification by the Office of the  
14 Inspector General or the Comptroller General of the  
15 United States that a grant or award recipient has  
16 demonstrated an insufficient level of performance or  
17 has engaged in wasteful or fraudulent spending; and

18           (2) not later than 3 days following a decision by  
19 the Administrator or Assistant Secretary about the  
20 disposition of the grant or award after receiving a  
21 notification under paragraph (1), including actions  
22 taken or an explanation for the decision to not act.

1   **SEC. 4. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

2           Section 6001(i)(4) of the American Recovery and Re-  
3 investment Act of 2009 (47 U.S.C. 1305(i)(4)) is amend-  
4 ed—

5           (1) by striking “may” and inserting “shall”;  
6       and

7           (2) by striking “, and award these funds com-  
8 petitively to new or existing applicants consistent  
9 with this section”.